

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /190 W

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R 221149Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9659

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2038

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, KU

SUBJECT: KUWAIT OIL COMPANY PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENTS

REF: KUWAIT 1454

1. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY PRODUCTION IN APRIL TOTALLED 77.2 MILLION BARRELS. KOC CONTINUED TO PRODUCE AT RATE OF ALMOST 2.6 MILLION BPD, ABOUT THE SAME AS DURING FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

2. A NEW STATISTIC WAS COMPILED FOR APRIL. IT IS LABELED
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"CRUDE INPUT" AND SHOWED OWNERS (I.E. GULF AND BP) AT

3,314,880 BARRELS AND GOK 654,955. STATISTIC IS NOT EXPLAINED
FURTHER BUT PRESUMABLY REFERS TO SHIPMENTS OF ROYALTY CRUDE.

3. DURING APRIL CRUDE EXPORTS TOTALLED 68 MILLION BARRELS,
NONE OF WHICH WAS EXPORTED TO THE U.S. LARGEST IMPORTERS IN
APRIL WERE JAPAN, 20 MILLION BARRELS; UK, 13.2 MILLION
BARRELS; ITALY, 6.9 MILLION BARRELS; FRANCE, 6.6 MILLION
BARRELS, AND SINGAPORE, 6.1 MILLION BARRELS. AS IN PREVIOUS
MONTHS NO CRUDE WAS EXPORTED TO HOLLAND ALTHOUGH KUWAITI
CRUDE FOR BELGIUM WAS SHIPPED VIA ROTTERDAM.

4. IN OTHER PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENTS, EMBOFF WAS TOLD BY
KOC OFFICIAL THAT FOR FIRST TIME SINCE AUGUST, 1973, COMPANY
VOLUNTARILY REDUCED PRODUCTION IN EARLY MAY. FOR ABOUT A
WEEK PRODUCTION WAS HELD TO ABOUT 1.5 MILLION BPD
BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF TANKERS. KOC OFFICIAL INDICATED THAT FOR
THE FIRST TIME SINCE ARAB OIL EMBARGO AND PRODUCTION CUTBACKS,
THE SOFTNESS OF MARKET FOR KUWAITI CRUDE HAS BEEN ENOUGH TO
AFFECT PRODUCTION LEVELS IN KUWAIT. MEANWHILE, HARD-LINE
DEPUTIES IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HAVE BEGUN TO PRESS AGAIN
FOR ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION LIMITATIONS, AND ATIQUI RECENTLY
TOLD VISITING BUSINESSMAN THAT OIL PRODUCTION IS UNLIKELY
TO BE RAISED ABOVE PRESENT LEVEL IN NEAR FUTURE.
STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, EXPORT DATA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KUWAIT02038
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740127-0938
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740527/aaaaaxvs.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: KUWAIT 1454
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <28 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KUWAIT OIL COMPANY PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: ENRG, KU, KUWAIT OIL COMPANY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005